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## ✓ Latest release

# Job Vacancies, Australia

Results of the quarterly Job Vacancies Survey containing estimates of job vacancies classified by industry, sector and state/territory.

Reference period November 2023

Released 10/01/2024

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## Key statistics

Seasonally adjusted estimates for November 2023:

- Total job vacancies were 388,800, a decrease of 0.7% from August 2023.
- Private sector vacancies were 345,700, a decrease of 0.6% from August 2023.
- Public sector vacancies were 43,100, a decrease of 1.8% from August 2023.

## Job vacancies, public and private sector

		Nov-2023 ('000)	Quarterly change (%)	Yearly change (%)
Trend	Private sector	341.1	-4.4	-16.4
	Public sector	43.1	-3.1	-7.9
	Private and public sectors	384.2	-4.3	-15.6
Seasonally Adjusted	Private sector	345.7	-0.6	-15.0
	Public sector	43.1	-1.8	-8.8
	Private and public sectors	388.8	-0.7	-14.4
Original	Private sector	343.2	-4.2	-14.8
	Public sector	43.3	-1.8	-8.7
	Private and public sectors	386.5	-3.9	-14.2

## Survey impacts and changes

### New approach for estimating the contribution of micro-employers

From the November quarter 2023 release, the ABS has implemented a modelled approach to account for the contribution of employers with less than five employees.

The model-based approach will reduce the quarterly response burden on these businesses, who are less likely to have job vacancies. Analysis of their contribution over time has also shown that their contribution to estimates can be effectively modelled.

In implementing this new approach, the ABS plans to collect information from a full sample of micro-employers every eighth quarter, to review the performance of the model. However, in the event of a major shock to the labour market (for example, a pandemic), a full sample would be run more frequently.

More detail is available in [Methodological News, December Quarter 2023 | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/research/methodological-news-december-quarter-2023#modelling-estimates-of-job-vacancies-for-micro-businesses) (<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/research/methodological-news-december-quarter-2023#modelling-estimates-of-job-vacancies-for-micro-businesses>).

## Other measures of labour demand

In addition to Job Vacancies, there are a number of non-ABS indicators that measure labour demand using alternative concepts, sources and methods. These are also widely used as leading indicators of employment. Prominent examples include the ANZ-Indeed Australian Job Ads Index, the SEEK Employment Report, and Jobs and Skills Australia's

Internet Vacancy Index.

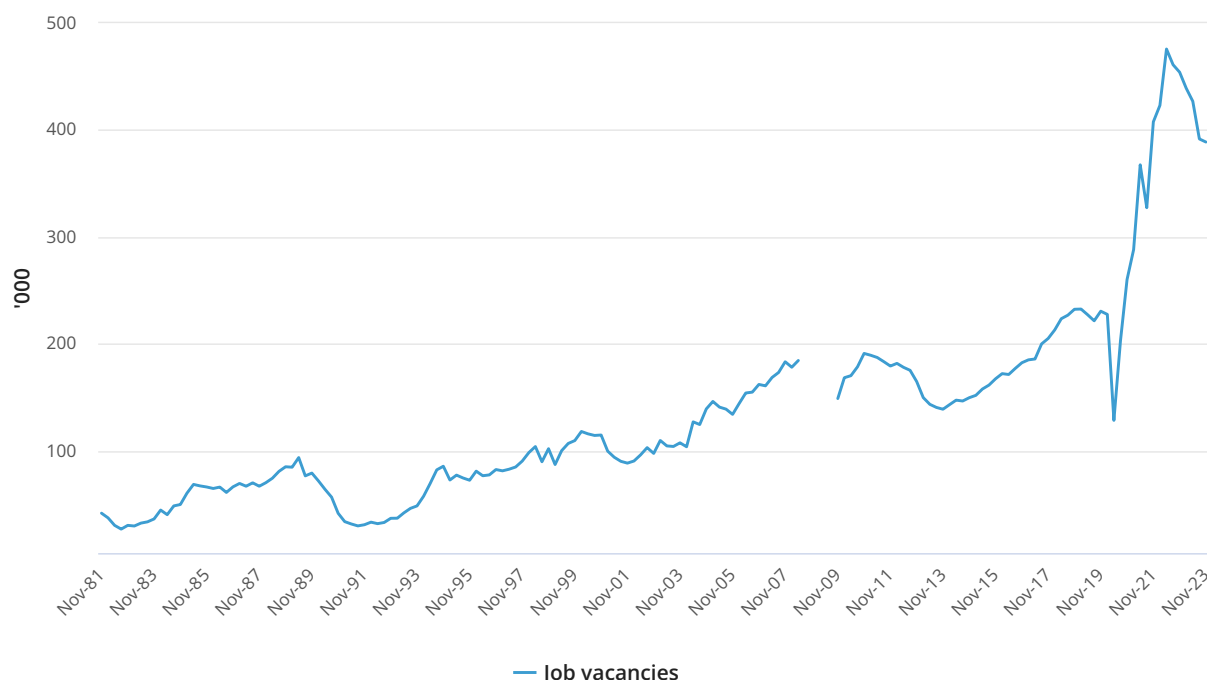
Measures of job vacancies and job advertisements will differ for a number of reasons:

- Job vacancies includes jobs for which job advertisements are undertaken but also includes jobs where other recruitment approaches are exclusively used, such as word of mouth or social media. For example, jobs in the Accommodation and food services industry are more likely to be advertised on social media or in shop front signs. These jobs were one of the key drivers of the boom in job vacancies during the pandemic.
  - Job vacancies is a count of every position advertised within a single notice, while some job advertisements may be used to fill multiple positions.
  - Most job advertisement series collect the number of jobs advertised over a period of time, whereas job vacancies are measured on one particular day. The difference between these two measures could be exacerbated during a time of severe labour shortages. That is, if a job is vacant longer, there is more chance it will be vacant on the reference date, yet it would still only count for one job ad.
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## **Job vacancies over time**

Job vacancies decreased by 0.7% (2,900 vacancies) in the three months to November 2023 (seasonally adjusted). Despite this being the sixth consecutive quarterly decrease, the level of job vacancies in November 2023 remained elevated. Job vacancies were 70.8% higher than they were in February 2020, prior to the start of the pandemic. The ongoing high level of vacancies reflected the continuing labour shortages in many industries.

## Job vacancies, seasonally adjusted



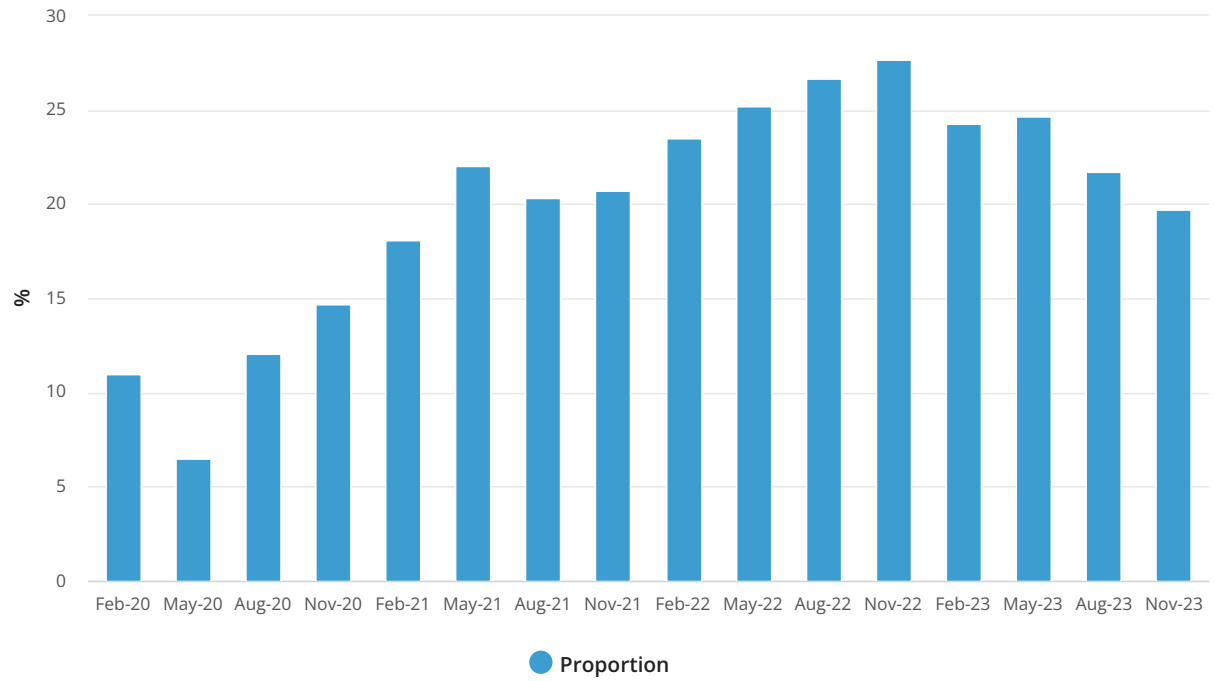
The Job Vacancies Survey was suspended between August 2008 to August 2009 (inclusive).

## Businesses reporting vacancies

The number of businesses reporting at least one vacancy shows the extent of the acute reduction in labour demand in May 2020, as well as the subsequent change since then. In February 2020, just prior to the main effects of COVID-19, the proportion of businesses reporting at least one vacancy was 11.0%. In May 2020, a much lower proportion of businesses reported at least one vacancy (6.5%). By November 2022, this had increased to 27.7%. In line with the decrease in the number of vacancies over recent quarters, the proportion of businesses reporting at least one vacancy also decreased to 19.7% in November 2023.

With the new approach for estimating the number of vacancies for micro-employers, the contribution to the proportion of businesses reporting vacancies for these employers will also be modelled from November 2023.

## Proportion of businesses reporting vacancies, Australia



## Proportion of businesses reporting vacancies, states and territories (%)

	Nov-21	Feb-22	May-22	Aug-22	Nov-22	Feb-23	May-23	Aug-23	No
<b>New South Wales</b>	22.3	24.2	26.2	28.9	28.0	27.4	26.5	20.1	
<b>Victoria</b>	21.2	22.9	27.3	27.1	29.2	25.4	24.7	26.3	
<b>Queensland</b>	20.0	26.0	22.8	26.7	28.3	22.6	25.4	23.3	
<b>South Australia</b>	14.7	17.6	17.3	19.7	18.4	16.0	19.4	17.2	
<b>Western Australia</b>	19.5	22.4	28.3	25.2	29.4	21.6	23.1	16.3	
<b>Tasmania</b>	18.5	19.2	19.1	14.0	22.0	15.6	14.5	16.9	
<b>Northern Territory</b>	23.1	27.8	31.6	36.5	35.6	26.4	23.4	25.8	
<b>Australian Capital Territory</b>	13.4	16.6	13.7	15.5	13.7	16.0	17.1	15.0	
<b>Australia</b>	20.7	23.5	25.2	26.7	27.7	24.3	24.7	21.7	

## Proportion of businesses reporting vacancies, industry (%)

	Nov-21	Feb-22	May-22	Aug-22	Nov-22	Feb-23	May-23	Aug-
Mining	17.1	27.8	24.8	19.3	27.1	26.0	26.4	
Manufacturing	24.9	29.6	22.3	25.9	23.8	26.8	16.8	
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	21.3	39.2	34.5	13.1	31.0	25.2	36.7	
Construction	21.5	24.3	30.3	28.5	28.5	24.2	23.6	
Wholesale trade	20.5	29.5	16.8	26.1	19.9	23.4	22.9	
Retail trade	15.9	16.6	17.7	23.8	31.5	23.0	21.7	
Accommodation and food services	30.9	32.4	34.0	42.5	45.3	41.7	35.5	
Transport, postal and warehousing	17.3	22.4	22.6	25.8	21.5	16.6	21.3	
Information media and telecommunications	15.5	19.8	26.7	20.4	29.0	21.4	21.3	
Financial and insurance services	5.5	14.8	20.0	8.2	21.7	7.4	11.8	
Rental, hiring and real estate services	15.1	20.1	25.2	27.3	26.1	13.9	13.0	
Professional, scientific and technical services	16.6	17.6	18.0	19.4	24.8	19.6	22.2	
Administrative and support services	30.5	36.2	38.3	32.8	36.8	26.7	34.0	
Public administration and safety	27.5	33.5	37.9	37.4	35.0	43.3	32.0	
Education and training	9.1	9.9	14.6	8.3	7.7	28.9	28.7	
Health care and social assistance	26.7	18.9	26.7	33.4	17.5	30.8	29.5	
Arts and recreation services	6.7	8.3	10.2	4.7	9.3	18.6	22.7	
Other services	25.4	32.7	32.7	34.4	36.7	25.3	31.1	
All industries	20.7	23.5	25.2	26.7	27.7	24.3	24.7	

## Reasons for vacancies (%)

	Nov-21	Feb-22	May-22	Aug-22	Nov-22	Feb-23	May-23	Aug-23	N
Replacement/ resignations	77.4	79.7	80.4	78.2	77.1	79.6	77.6	77.4	
Increased workload	45.9	47.8	47.0	45.4	44.0	44.0	39.7	38.6	
Expansion of business	25.7	25.9	27.8	27.8	25.6	26.7	26.4	24.8	
Restructure	13.8	13.9	14.4	13.2	12.8	13.7	14.5	14.3	
Relocation	0.5	1.0	0.7	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.5	0.8	
Seasonal	19.0	12.0	11.6	14.1	18.1	12.3	11.4	13.4	
Special event	2.4	2.1	1.9	1.8	2.2	1.8	1.8	1.8	
Takeover	1.6	2.0	1.0	1.5	1.8	2.0	1.6	1.6	
Other	12.0	12.9	8.6	7.1	6.4	9.8	8.2	9.2	

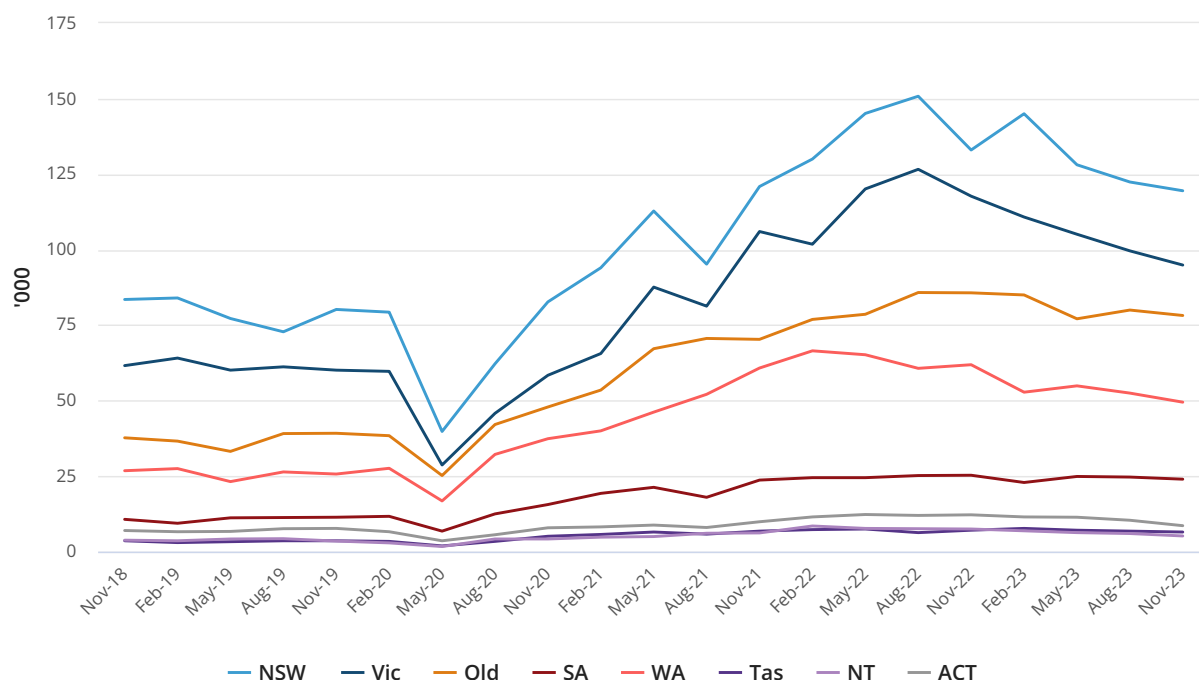
Businesses may have multiple reasons for reporting job vacancies

Proportions are of businesses that reported at least one vacancy

## States and territories



## Job vacancies, states and territories, original

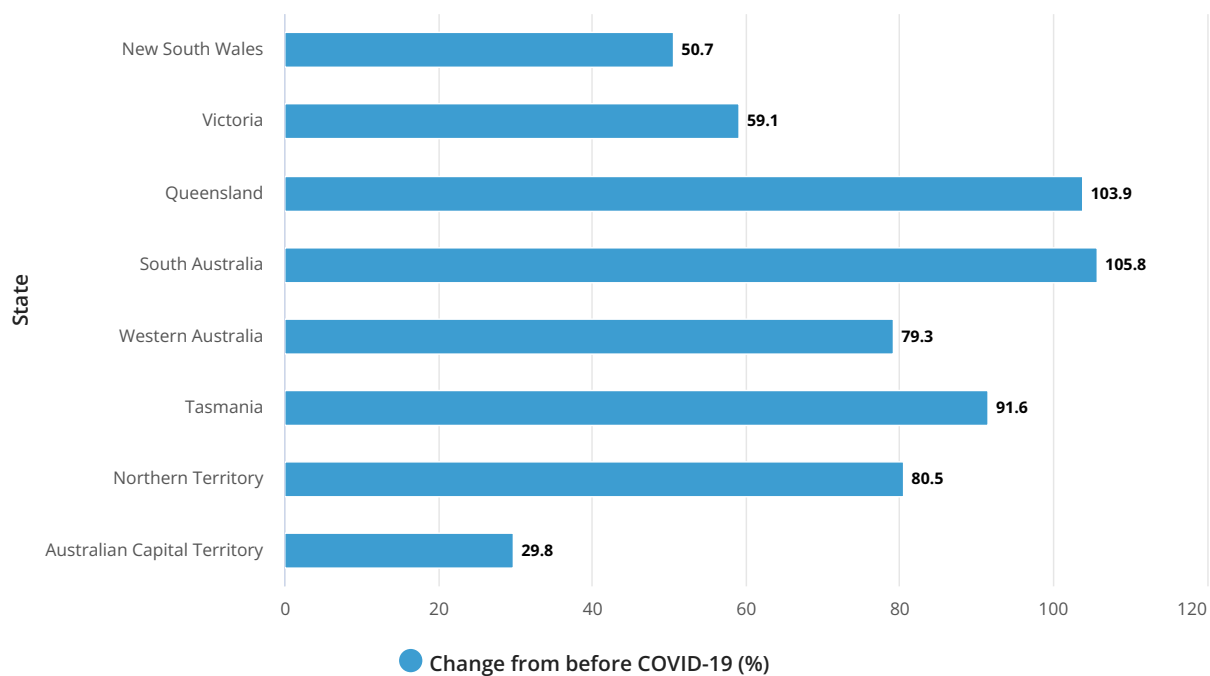


## Change in job vacancies, states and territories (%)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia (Seasonally adjusted)	Australia (Trend)
Change from previous quarter											
Aug-22	3.9	5.4	9.1	3.1	-6.8	-16.6	-1.3	-2.9	3.0	-3.1	2.5
Nov-22	-11.8	-7.0	-0.1	0.4	1.9	12.8	-1.7	2.0	-5.2	-1.5	0.0
Feb-23	9.0	-5.9	-0.8	-9.4	-14.8	8.4	-8.4	-5.8	-1.8	-3.3	-3.0
May-23	-11.7	-5.1	-9.3	8.7	4.0	-7.6	-8.3	-1.1	-6.2	-2.8	-4.7
Aug-23	-4.5	-5.2	3.8	-1.0	-4.3	-4.7	-4.8	-8.4	-3.0	-8.3	-4.6
Nov-23	-2.3	-4.7	-2.2	-2.8	-5.8	-3.6	-13.9	-17.2	-3.9	-0.7	-4.3
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year											
Nov-21	46.2	81.6	46.8	52.5	62.7	32.6	46.1	25.4	56.1	56.7	54.3
Nov-22	10.1	11.0	21.9	6.8	1.7	4.1	21.0	23.5	11.3	11.4	11.8
Nov-23	-10.2	-19.3	-8.7	-5.2	-20.1	-7.9	-31.2	-29.3	-14.2	-14.4	-15.6

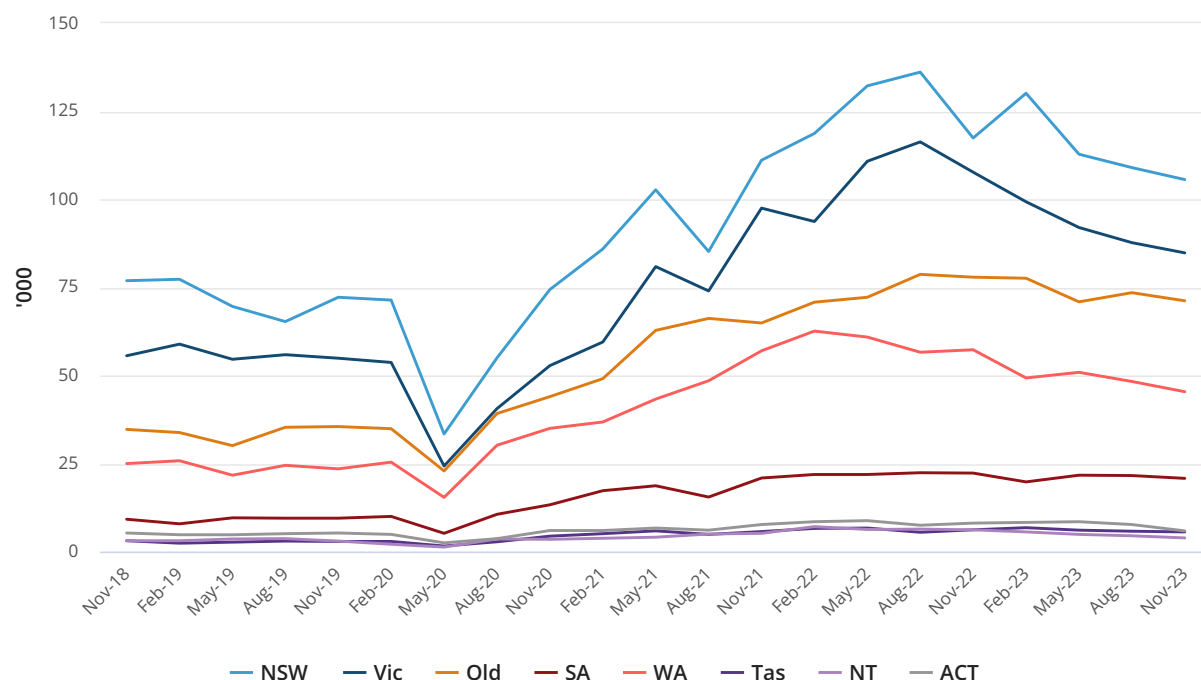
Data refers to original series unless otherwise stated

## Job vacancies, change from February 2020 to November 2023, states and



## Private sector

## Job vacancies, private sector, states and territories, original



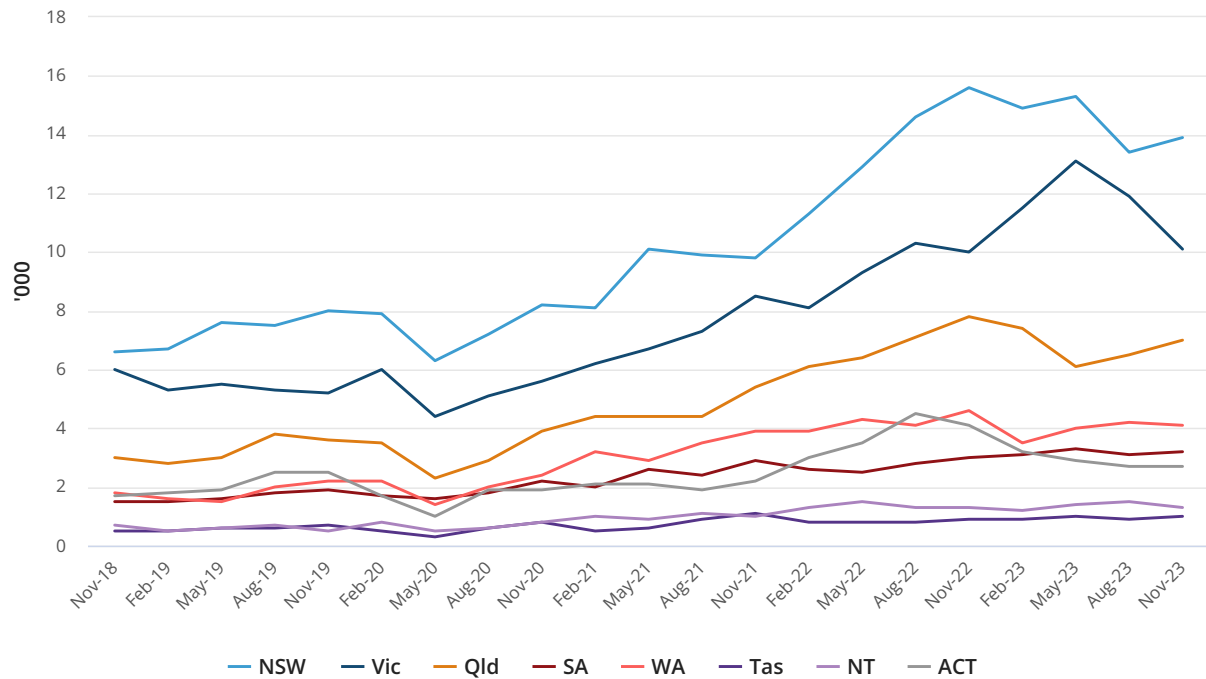
## Change in job vacancies, private sector (%)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia (Seasonally adjusted)	Australia (Trend)
Change from previous quarter											
Aug-22	3.0	5.0	8.9	2.1	-7.0	-18.1	1.5	-14.5	2.3	-4.4	1.9
Nov-22	-13.7	-7.4	-1.0	-0.4	1.3	12.1	-2.8	7.8	-6.1	-2.2	-0.5
Feb-23	10.8	-7.8	-0.4	-11.2	-14.1	9.2	-8.7	2.7	-1.6	-3.5	-3.4
May-23	-13.3	-7.4	-8.6	9.4	3.3	-9.6	-13.3	2.4	-7.3	-3.1	-4.9
Aug-23	-3.3	-4.6	3.6	-0.4	-5.0	-4.3	-7.6	-9.0	-2.6	-8.6	-4.8
Nov-23	-3.1	-3.3	-3.1	-3.6	-6.0	-4.6	-14.1	-23.9	-4.2	-0.6	-4.4
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year											
Nov-21	49.2	84.7	47.6	56.7	62.7	31.0	48.9	28.4	58.5	59.1	56.9
Nov-22	5.7	10.4	20.0	6.9	0.7	8.5	18.9	5.3	9.0	9.1	9.5
Nov-23	-10.1	-21.2	-8.5	-6.7	-20.8	-9.9	-37.1	-27.2	-14.8	-15.0	-16.4

Data refers to original series unless otherwise stated

## Public sector

### Job vacancies, public sector, states and territories, original



### Change in job vacancies, public sector (%)

	NSW	Vic	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Australia	Australia (Seasonally adjusted)	Australia (Trend)
Change from previous quarter											
Aug-22	13.3	10.5	11.4	11.3	-4.4	-3.9	-13.5	26.0	10.2	10.8	7.8
Nov-22	6.6	-3.0	10.0	6.8	10.9	17.5	4.0	-7.8	4.1	4.4	4.7
Feb-23	-4.8	14.7	-5.7	4.3	-23.6	2.7	-7.2	-22.7	-3.5	-1.4	0.6
May-23	2.9	14.7	-17.1	4.6	14.4	7.4	14.7	-10.1	3.1	-0.1	-2.5
Aug-23	-12.6	-9.4	5.3	-5.5	4.1	-6.8	4.8	-6.7	-6.5	-5.7	-3.1
Nov-23	4.1	-15.2	8.6	3.1	-2.3	2.9	-13.5	2.5	-1.8	-1.8	-3.1
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year											
Nov-21	19.1	51.6	37.7	27.2	62.4	41.8	33.1	15.8	34.5	34.6	31.0
Nov-22	59.1	18.0	44.8	5.7	17.5	-18.4	32.0	86.5	36.3	36.4	36.0
Nov-23	-10.9	1.1	-10.5	6.2	-11.1	5.8	-3.5	-33.6	-8.7	-8.8	-7.9

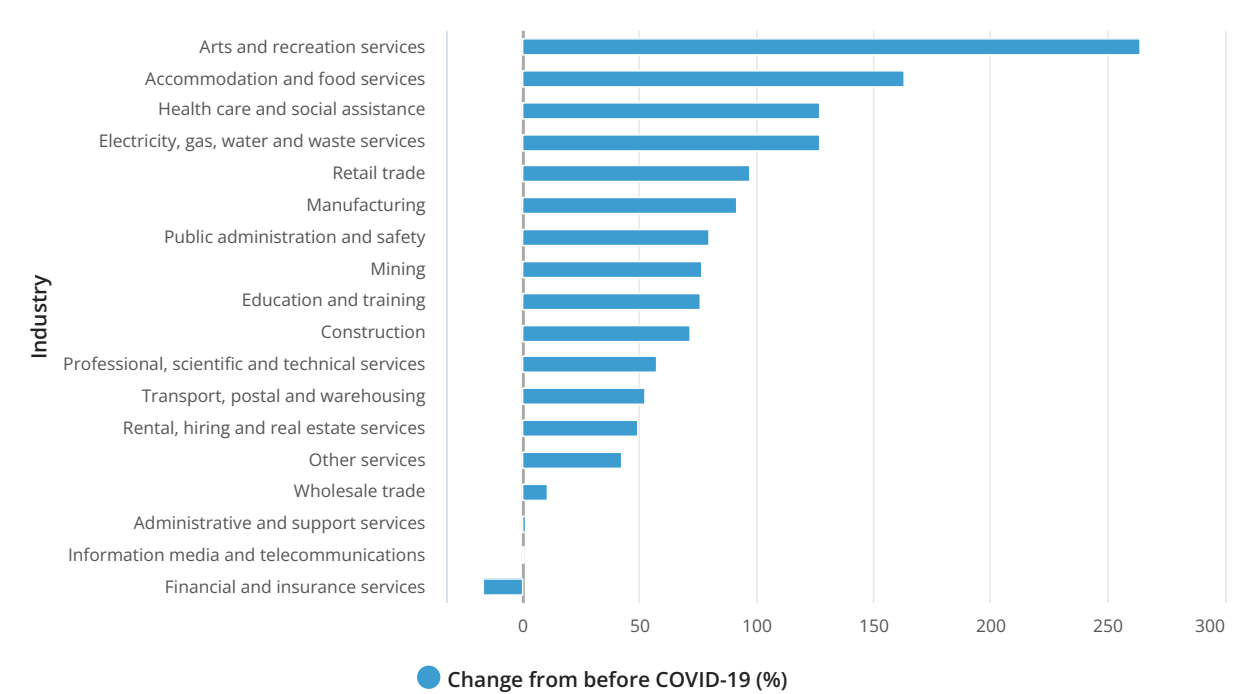
Data refers to original series unless otherwise stated

# Industry

## Job vacancies, industry, original ('000)

	Aug-22	Nov-22	Feb-23	May-23	Aug-23	Nov-23
Mining	10.6	9.8	10.6	11.7	11.4	11.5
Manufacturing	28.3	25.9	25.1	22.6	25.1	23.4
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.9	4.9	4.8
Construction	33.5	29.9	31.2	33.1	28.8	28.5
Wholesale trade	20.5	16.6	16.5	15.3	15.5	14.0
Retail trade	46.1	49.9	36.4	32.2	38.5	37.2
Accommodation and food services	59.1	56.3	57.8	42.5	41.4	38.8
Transport, postal and warehousing	17.7	15.4	14.6	13.4	12.1	11.5
Information media and telecommunications	5.4	4.3	3.6	3.8	3.5	3.4
Financial and insurance services	18.6	16.8	14.9	13.4	11.3	10.0
Rental, hiring and real estate services	10.1	9.4	5.9	5.5	5.5	4.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	44.1	40.8	47.6	44.7	42.5	41.4
Administrative and support services	38.0	41.3	38.4	37.5	33.2	31.5
Public administration and safety	27.5	30.1	26.4	22.9	23.6	23.8
Education and training	11.2	11.1	13.5	15.9	15.5	13.6
Health care and social assistance	74.3	62.7	72.4	72.9	68.1	67.5
Arts and recreation services	6.6	7.8	6.6	6.5	7.3	7.3
Other services	18.8	18.0	16.5	16.1	14.2	13.5

# Job vacancies, change from February 2020 to November 2023, industry, original



## Data Downloads

### Time series spreadsheets

Download all (301.92 KB)

Table 1. Job vacancies, states and territories ('000)

Download XLSX  
[84.02 KB]

Table 2. Job vacancies, private sector, states and territories ('000)

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[93.01 KB]

Table 3. Job vacancies, public sector, states and territories ('000)

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[81.71 KB]

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## Table 4. Job vacancies, industry, Australia ('000) - original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[69.43 KB]

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### Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6354.0.

### Methodology

[Job Vacancies, Australia methodology, November 2023](#)